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REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Prolegomena to history. The relation of history to literature, philosophy, and science. By Frederick J. Teggart, associate professor of history and curator of the Bancroft library, University of California. [University of California publications in history, vol. 4, no. 3, pp. 153-292] (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1916. 140 p. \$1.50)

This is a baffling booklet. Its learning, its thoughtfulness, its sincerity, are beyond question; but its message is puzzling. It begins, not with an analysis of what history has actually been and is, but with an utterance of Principal Caird when a generation ago history was still knocking for entrance to the curriculum of Scottish universities. The good Scot, to whom education meant intellectual discipline, would make history's admission turn on whether it is "capable of scientific treatment." Its worth in general Principal Caird did not question; that "the same method of treatment cannot be applied to nature and to history" he expressly urged; and, despite his doubts, history was let in and has remained. But Mr. Teggart declares his words a challenge to which there has been no adequate response, and treats them as a challenge not only to history in education but to history altogether. Then, assuming that, if history is not a science, it ought to be, and that, if a science, its method must be that of natural science, he devotes his opening chapter to "The method of science." Turning now, at length, to history he notes that the world may mean "either a narrative or the course of events in the past," and that in the former sense it "implies both investigation and composition." Thus he opens a chapter on "historical investigation and historiography;" but it is not to adopt this familiar distinction between research and portrayal. Holding that historical investigation has thus far been only ancillary to historiography, he sweeps aside as historiography the entire activity of historians. To him history, as heretofore studied, is only "the name of a literary form or genre" — an art, which should be content to be imaginative, passionate, partisan, and which might better be identified with "story." Yet history even as it is has now found defenders among the logicians; and he pauses, before telling us what it ought to be, for a chapter on "History and philosophy." Its burden is that logic can only describe, not justify: a conclusion the more startling because it is as logician that he has himself been holding

history to the strictest canons for science and for art. And it is surely as logician that now he further declares her method of approach philosophy, not science.

It is in a final chapter, "history and evolution," that he expounds his own ideal of history. How this diverges from that of anthropology it is not easy to see. Their field, he tells us, is the same; and both use what he counts the one method of science. They differ, he says, "only in so far as each represents the use of a special investigative technique." But wherein lies that special technique of the new history appears by glimpses only and too dimly for exposition by the present reviewer. Yet the author is clearly struggling with a great thought. At every page of his book the friend of what has hitherto been history is stirred to contradiction or to protest. But even the friend of what has hitherto been history knows that the human past needs other study as well. If not as historian, yet as man, he welcomes the wide reading and the vigorous thought with which this little book urges that need; and in its pages, as in those of an earlier paper of its author ["The circumstance or the substance of history," in *American historical review*, 15:709-719], he catches by flashes a something which leaves him very impatient for further light on this new conception of history and for its author's promised discussion of progress and of the hypotheses for human evolution.

GEORGE L. BURR

Japan and America. A contrast. By Carl Crow. (New York: Robert M. McBride and company, 1916. 316 p. \$1.50 net)

In *Japan and America* Mr. Carl Crow, formerly on the staff of one of the foreign newspapers in Tokyo, has given us a very readable, but quite superficial and unreliable study of present-day Japan and her international policies. The fourteen chapters cover, among other topics, certain comparisons between Japan and the United States, an analysis of the modern progress of Japan, an account of Japanese-American relations, including a chapter on "what Japan thinks of us," a study of Japan's recent diplomacy in China, and an answer to the question, "is Japan a menace?" The book is of interest because of the journalistic style of the author, and any value it may possess is due to the newsman's point of view. But as no sources of information are cited, the careful student will have to turn elsewhere for confirmation of all statements advanced as facts.

The thesis of the author may be summed up in the following quotations:

"Though never seeking a quarrel with Japan and though having no